The Bible & Daily Living

Crossing the barriers of race and religion

By William L. Trimyer
Crossing The Barriers of Race and Religion
Lesson for February 7, 1982
Bible Study Passages: John 4:7-14, 19-26
Introduction

In some ways we have witnessed a narrowing of the gaps that have existed among nations and people for many years. In other ways, however, we have seen an ever-widening gulf among certain races and countries. It is sad that human differences are most often interpreted as things that divide and separate. For some reason we tend to judge rather than appreciate the uniqueness of others.

Prejudice is a powerful emotion. Prejudice is a judgment of someone based upon ignorance. We tend to be prejudiced in our attitudes and responses to others until we come to know someone closely. Prejudice is the "arm" we sometimes use to distance ourselves from one another. It does require effort to seek to know someone and understand who they are.

This does not mean, however, that we will always like what we come to know or understand about another person. We are not asked to approve of someone's behavior or thinking, but we are asked to respect their rights and personhood. Judgm en ts must surely be made. Every day we are placed in the position to judge someone. From the example of Jesus we can learn how to be freed of malicious prejudice and reform our faith and worship.

The Rift Between Jews and Samaritans [John 4:7-9]

History reveals a serious rift between Jews and Samaritans. These two races of people avoided one another like the plague. The Jews were generally anti-Samaritan and the Samaritans were generally anti-Jewish. Fortunately, Jesus did not share the same sort of prejudice, but was able to rise above the long-standing rift and minister to a Samaritan woman.

The hostility that existed between the Jews and Samaritans was of the bitterest kind. A Jew would go out of his way to avoid passing through Samaritan lands. The same was true of a Samaritan.

In the heat of the day a woman of Samaria come to draw water, perhaps to avoid the judgmental looks and comments of those who considered her unfit. Jesus shatters the normal customs and aks her for a drink of water. Jewish men did not normally speak to women in public, much less ask for water. Jesus did not discriminate against her because she happened to be a woman, nor did he act prejudicial because she was of the Samaritan race.

A Gift of Living Water [John 4:10-14]

The Samaritan woman had no earthly idea of the heavenly significance of Jesus and the "living water" he had to offer. The woman's response may have been sarcastic. "How can you draw from the well without a pot?" Jesus then boldly exclaims, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst." What Christ has to offer satisfies once-and-for-all.

Jesus certainly aroused the woman's curiosity, but she is slow in grasping the meaning of his words. What we encounter in Christ is a perpetual fountain that refreshes and meets our spiritual needs.

The Requirements of Worship [John 4:19-26]

The text reveals that Jesus confronts the woman concerning her moral behavior. Out of this confrontation the woman engages Jesus in a conversation about religion and worship. When things get too personal we can always generalize to save us from revealing so much so quickly!

Out of this conversation Jesus makes some striking proclamations concerning worship. Oftentimes people argue over form and ceremony of worship. We may prejudice ourselves towards certain religious expressions because they do not coincide with our expressions. But Jesus emphatically argues that true worship of God takes place when we worship "in spirit and in truth." Form and ceremony are valuable, but they do not take the place of heart-felt worship. To really worship we must look through the symbols to the reality they represent. Our religious symbols are not to be worshipped but are to serve as reminders of God the Father and Christ the Son.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WL-YP).

(Based on copyrighed outlines produced by the Committee on the Uniform Series, and used by permission.)

St. Anne's slates benefit

St. Anne's Episcopal Church will have a benefit card party in the Church parish hall on Friday night, Feb. 12 beginning at 8:00 p.m.

A delicious dessert and beverages will be served and each table will receive a high score prize. In addition to the table prizes, many door prizes will be given out to holders of the lucky tally numbers. A donation of $12.00 per table or $3.00 for each player is requested and proceeds will be used toward the purchase of a much needed organ in St. Anne's.

Get your foursome together now for an evening of bride, canasta, or your favorite game. Reservations may be made by calling 352-8738, 352-2286, or 352-5268.

Area scouts will compete in derby

Area Boy Scouts will again compete in the Klondike Derby on Saturday, February 6. The winter scouting skills contest is held annually on Westvaco timberlands property on Route 24, at Buffalo Creek, near the Bedford-Campbell County line.

Over 300 Boy Scouts and adult leaders representing 25 troops from Central Virginia are expected to participate in the day long event hosted by Westvaco Corporation.

The Scouts build sledges, resembling Alaskan style dog sleds, to carry the equipment necessary to compete in the 10 Scouting skill contests along the three mile course. The wooded hills and hollows for this one day take on familiar far North names such as "Fairbanks", "Kodiak," "Polar Cave" and "Yukon Peak." The Scouts push, pull and coax their sledges over the rugged woods course, hoping to earn enough "gold nuggets" to win camping equipment prizes awarded to the top patrols.

Some of the skills tested in the real life situations encountered on the Klondike trail include first aid, fire building, axe safety, knot tying, map and compass, tree identification, outdoor cooking and rope rescue.

Bob Dixon, Klondike Derby Chairman from Bedford, commented that last year the lack of snow did not diminish the competitive spirits of the Scouts. They not only test their Scouting skills but also learn to apply them to real life situations and be better prepared. To be winners, a high degree of teamwork, spirit, and effort must be demonstrated by the patrols. Each Scout who participates in the competition events receives a special embroidered color patch. The Klondike Derby is a nationwide Scouting event and has been growing here each year since its beginning in the late 1960's.

Spectators are welcome to come out and watch the Scouts compete in this high spirited event which help them live up to the Boy Scout motto to "Be Prepared."

Heart Fund

Hopkins appointed here

Mrs. Delores Hopkins of Appomattox has been appointed chairman of the American Heart Association's "A Time To Remember" program for Appomattox County, Virginia Affiliate Chairman of the Board Hampden F. Collier, announced today.

"The Time To Remember program is a method for recognizing special people, events, holidays and achievements through a gift to the American Heart Association," said Mrs. Hopkins. Contributions to the "Time To Remember" program are used to support research, education and community service programs in Appomattox County and throughout Virginia. In 1979-1980, $216,000 was raised statewide through "Time To Remember" contributions.

The American Heart Association has spent $350 million over the last 32 years to pioneer new methods of preventing premature death and disability from heart disease. A significant amount of those monies came through public contributions raised in Virginia. Over the last decade, there has been a dramatic 20% decrease in deaths from heart disease.

To get more information about the "Time To Remember" program or to make a contribution, contact Mrs. Delores Hopkins, Rt. 2, Box 305, Appomattox, Va. 24522. The "Time To Remember" contribution is tax deductible and will be acknowledged with a special note, regardless of the amount contributed.

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Childress completes training

Marine Lance Cpl. Michael L. Childress, son of Patricia E. Flynn of Route 1, Box 32R, Concord, Va., recently completed cold weather training at Fort Ripley, Minn.

He is a member of "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 10th Marines, based at Camp Lejeune, N. C.

The two-week course consists of intensive training in cold-weather combat techniques, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and survival in a cold weather environment. His unit is conducting the training in preparation for an upcoming deployment to Norway.

NOT ONLY DOES the Duke's of Hazards have their General Lee, so does the Commercial Nuclear Fuel Plant at Babcock & Wilcox. Lyle Lee, manager, Manufacturing Operations, was honored with a 39 and holding birthday party on December 11, 1981. The gala affair was given by the Fuel Rod Fabrication Section. Everyone from the CNFP participated in eating the cake. The insigna represents Lyle's nickname "The General".

Hudson reports for duty

Marine Lance Cpl. John T. Hudson, son of Uatha E. and Mary C. Hudson of Route 3, Box 358, Appomattox, Va., has reported for duty with 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines, Camp Lejeune, N. C.

Marine Pvt. Robert L. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Smith of Route 3, Box 437, Appomattox, Va., has reported for duty with Wing Engineer Squadron 27, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N. C.

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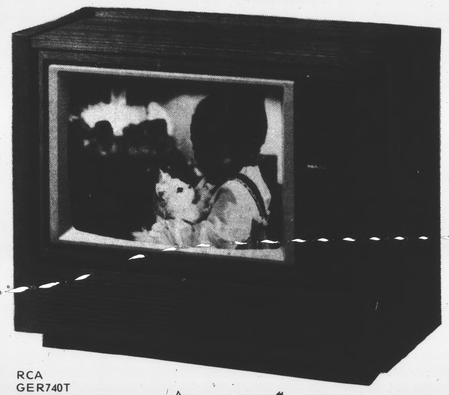

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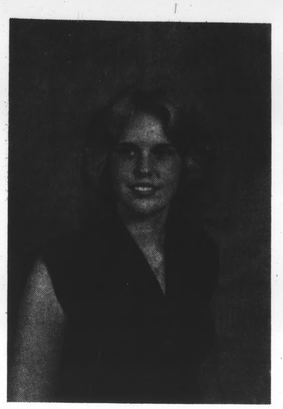

Susan Gayle Marston

Marston to wed

Mr. and Mrs. Benny O. Marston of Red House, Va. are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Susan Gayle to James Garland Adams son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry P. Adams of Pamplin, Va.

The wedding will take place May 1, 1982 at Providence Baptist Church in Red House, Va.

Although no invitations will be sent all friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Social News

Tailoring class set

A Tailoring class will be offered by the Appomattox County School Board as part of the Adult Education Program beginning this Thursday night, February 4. The class will meet each Thursday night from 7:30 until 9:30 for a period of ten weeks. Tuition for the class will be ten dollars payable the first night of the class.

This class will deal with tailoring a classic jacket from woven fabric. Instruction will center around the selecting and fitting of patterns, using interfacing and special stitches, and lining of a garment.

Tajloring differs from other types of sewing in that garment shape is permanently maintained through use of interfacing, stay tape, pad stitching and pressing. By the end of the class, a participant will have a garment made to fit and will have the great satisfaction that comes when one does his/her own project.

Donna Miller, an accomplished seamstress, will teach the class. For further information concerning the class contact R. B. Carter, at 352-8253.

Falling River Country Club plans annual chili feat

The February Social Committee has announced that the Annual Chili Feast and Bluegrass Music Social will be held on February 13, 1982. Doors will open at 7:00 with music beginning at 8:00. Members and invited guests only. There is no limit on invited guests. Charge will be $15.00 a couple.

Reunion meet set

The Appomattox County High School Class of 1957 will hold a meeting at the home of Jack Caldwell at 2 p.m. this Sunday, Feb. 7.

The meeting will be for disecussing plans for the class' 25 reunion this summer.

All members of the Class of 1957 are urged to attend this meeting.

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Reception slated

A reception will be given in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Rob and Elsie Lucado, Sunday, February 14 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall of Red Oak Baptist Church. Friends and family are invited to attend.

Women to met

The Appomattox Woman's Club will meet at 12:00 noon on Saturday, February 6, 1982 at the John Mosby Inn Restaurant. Mrs. Shirley Walton will be the speaker for the Home Life Department program.

All members are expected to attend.

Middle school administrators meet

The Executive Council of the Virginia Association of Middle School Administrators met at Appomattox Middle School, January 27, 1982 to discuss plans for mid winter and spring workshops, State Secondary Principal's Conference, Volunteer consultants Services and other issues of concern to middle schools.

In attendance were Dr. Bob Jewel and Mrs. Patricia Walker from the Virginia Department of Education and a group of Virginia Principals.

IN ATTENDANCE AT Wednesday's meeting were Dr. Bob Jewel and Mrs. Patricia Walker from the Virginia Department of Education, and a group of Virginia principals.

The purposes of the Virginia Association of Middle School Administrators are:

To provide middle schools and their respective client communities with a voice, through their administrators, on matters affecting middle school education;

To provide middle school administrators with a means by which they may work to secure resolution to statewide issues as identified by the membership;

To assist middle school administrators in facilitation of curricular development, faculty in-service education, school planning, and other responsibilities of middle school administration and supervision.

To serve as a dissiminating agency for the administrators of Virginia's middle schools for the exchange of ideas, resources, and personnel and to aid in the continuing development of middle school programs; and

To maintain a professional organization whose activities will be solely devoted to the concerns and interest of middle school administrators in Virginia.

School Menus

Appomattox Elem. Menu

Thurs., Feb. 4 - Salisbury steak w/gravy, hot rolls, green beans, creamed potatoes, fruit cup, milk.

Fri., Feb. 5 - Cheese pizza w/beef, tomato and lettuce salad, corn, sliced peaches, milk.

Mon., Feb. 8 - Hamburger on bun, lima beans, corn, applesauce, milk.

Tues., Feb. 9 - Footlong hotdog on bun, pork and beans, cole slaw, pineapple chunks, milk.

Wed., Feb. 10 - Oven fried chicken, sliced bread, green beans, creamy potatoes, sliced peaches, milk.

Thurs., Feb. 11 - Sliced ham, hot rolls, oven fried apples, potato rounds, juice, milk.

Fri., Feb. 12 - Beef and cheese pizza, tomato and lettuce salad w/dressing, sliced carrots, purple plums, milk.

Middle School Menu

Thurs., Feb. 4 - Chili beans, cole slaw, peaches, hot roll, milk.

Fri., Feb. 5 - Batter dipped fish, macaroni and cheese, mixed greens, hot roll, milk.

Mon., Feb. 8 - Hot dog on bun/chili, french fries, baked beans, peach cobbler, milk.

Tues., Feb. 9 - Meatloaf, whipped potatoes, buttered corn, hot roll, milk, fruit.

Primary School Menu

Thurs., Feb. 4 - Hamburger on bun, potato rounds, peaches, milk.

Fri., Feb. 5 - Chicken, gravy, creamed potatoes, string beans, bread, milk.

Mon., Feb. 8 - Hot dog on bun, baked beans, slaw, milk.

Tues., Feb. 9 - Bologna and gravy, creamed potatoes, baked apple, roll, butter, milk.

Wed., Feb. 10 - Spaghetti, cheese square, mixed greens, fruit, roll, butter, milk.

Thurs., Feb. 11 - Hamburger on bun, candied yams, peas and carrots, milk.

Friday, Feb. 12 - Fish, string beans, corn on cob, milk, roll, butter.

Classified Ads Get Results

4-H news

By CINDY WEAVER

Miss Susan Jamerson's 4-H Club met on Jan. 8, 1982 at Pamplin Elementary School. Our president Sherry Hackney called the meeting to order. Marelena Covington led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and Niki Jackson led us in the 4-H Pledge.

The minutes were read by Cindy Weaver. The old business was the ordering of the strawberry plants. Some people won camp scholarships for popcorn selling. The new business was 4-H Share-the-Fun. It will be held on Jan. 29, 1982. Also 4-H Camp would be held on July 5-9. Slides of Share-the-Fun acts were presented to us by Mr. Sweet.

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